

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 4, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the Washington County Commission was called to order by Chairman Dennis Drake at 4:00 p.m. on January 4, 2011, in the Commission Chambers, Washington County Administration Building, St. George, Utah. Those in attendance were Commission Chairman Dennis Drake, Commissioner James J. Eardley, Commissioner Alan D. Gardner, Washington County Administrator Dean J. Cox, Deputy County Attorney Rachelle Ehlert, and Deputy County Clerk Christine Hall.

The Spectrum was represented by Brian Ahern at the meeting.

Before commencing with today's Commission Meeting Agenda, eight (8) newly-elected officials were sworn into office by Commissioner Alan D. Gardner. They were: Commissioners Dennis Drake and James J. Eardley; Sheriff Cory Pulsipher; County Attorney Brock R. Belnap; Assessor Arthur L. Partridge; Recorder Russell Shirts; Clerk-Auditor Kim M. Hafen; and Judge Douglas Whitlock. Treasurer David Whitehead and Judge Paul Dame were absent and will be sworn in at a later date.

Commissioner Gardner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Drake expressed gratitude to outgoing Chairman James Eardley for his hard work and dedication as the Commission Chair for the past seven (7) years. Under his conscientious stewardship, Washington County has been the best-managed county in the State.

AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda is a means of expediting routine matters which come before the Commission for approval. The Consent Portion of the agenda is approved by one (1) non-debatable motion. If any Commissioner wishes to remove an item from the Consent Portion of the agenda, then that item becomes the first order of business on the regular agenda.

- Consideration of Auditor-Approved Claims for Payment for December 28, 2010, through January 4, 2011
- Consideration of Approval of Special Commission Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2010

Actions Of The Washington County Planning Commission Meeting / None

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Gardner to Approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried

by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Drake, Eardley, and Gardner voting aye.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH / CAROL HOLLOWELL

Carol Hollowell, Director of the Volunteer Center of Washington County, introduced several members of the Youth Court Panel and its mentor, Pat Trujillo. The Youth Court Panel manages referred court cases. These youth volunteers have also contributed their time and energy filling Christmas stockings for Dixie Care and Share's Christmas dinner, created frames and pictures for children at the Dove Center, will plant a community garden in the spring, and are involved in many other service projects.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT / CORY PULSIPHER

Sheriff Cory Pulsipher reported that there has been only one (1) Search and Rescue call-out since the last Commission meeting, an unfortunate incident involving three stranded hikers in Snow Canyon, one of whom was fatally injured in a fall. Sheriff Pulsipher commended the Search and Rescue volunteers for their selfless dedication in climbing the mountain in the snow, cold, and dark, spending more than fourteen (14) hours trying to recover the body of the young man who fell.

PURCHASE REQUESTS / MARK BLANCH: DIXIE CENTER AND BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Dixie Center, sound system for ballroom	\$ 31,325.41
Sheriff's Office, change sprinkler heads at Purgatory	13,000.00

All purchases are budgeted, bonded, or paid for through grant funds.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Approve the Purchase Requests, as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gardner and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Drake, Eardley, and Gardner voting aye.

PRESENTATION BY WASHINGTON COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT: QUAIL CREEK WATER TREATMENT PLANT/ HANK CHILDERS

Hank Childers, Quail Creek Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, gave a presentation concerning the new ten (10) million gallon water storage tank being built at the Water Treatment Plant at Quail Creek, which is still under construction. The projected completion date is March 29, 2011.

Chairman Drake asked how this new tank will increase capacity, and Mr. Childers replied that the treatment plant capacity is forty-eight (48) million gallons per day, but was fourteen (14) million without this tank. Commissioner Eardley asked what the cost was, and Mr. Childers said it was seven point eight million dollars (\$7,800,000). A copy of his presentation is available through the office of the Washington County Commission.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2011-1524, A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING BOARD MEMBERS TO THE LAND USE AUTHORITY /PLANNING COMMISSION

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Gardner to Adopt Resolution No. R-2011-1524, A Resolution Re-Appointing Joann Balen and Kim Ford as Board Members and Rick Jones as an Alternate Member To The Land Use Authority /Planning Commission, with terms to expire January 31, 2014. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Drake, Eardley, and Gardner voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2011-1525, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND RE-APPOINTING BOARD MEMBERS TO THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Gardner to Adopt Resolution No. R-2011-1525, A Resolution Re-Appointing Dennis Drake, Dale Larkin, John Allen, and current Mayor Allen Brown of Rockville as Board Members To The Boundary Commission. Stan Holt's position will be filled at a later date. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Drake, Eardley, and Gardner voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2011-1526, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY'S EMPLOYEE WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN BETWEEN TALL TREE ADMINISTRATORS, LLC, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chairman Drake said that this is a new contract for health insurance administration between County employees and Tall Tree Administrators, LLC. All agreements which comprise this contract have been thoroughly reviewed by the Washington County Attorney's Office. Several changes have been made that are in the County's best interests.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Eardley to Adopt Resolution No. R-2011-1526, A Resolution Approving Agreements Relating To The Administration Of Washington County's Employee Welfare Benefit Plan Between Tall Tree Administrators, LLC, And Washington County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gardner and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Drake, Eardley, and Gardner voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2011-1527, A RESOLUTION ASSERTING COORDINATOR AUTHORITY TO REQUEST THAT THE FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES COORDINATE WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY IN LAND USE INVENTORY, PLANNING, AND MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

Commissioner Gardner explained that this Resolution permits the Commission to assert its coordination authority to request that federal land management agencies coordinate with Washington County in land use inventory, planning, and management efforts, as required by federal law.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Gardner to Adopt Resolution No. R-2011-1527, A Resolution Asserting Coordinator Authority To Request That The Federal Land Management Agencies Coordinate With Washington County In Land Use Inventory, Planning, And Management Efforts. Motion seconded by Commissioner Eardley and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Drake, Eardley, and Gardner voting aye.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

No items were presented today.

PUBLIC WORKS OR ROAD BUSINESS

Washington County Public Works Director Ron Whitehead updated the Commission on the status of current projects within the County.

His department is in the process of compiling a list of everything that has been submitted by cities and other agencies in the County, which consists of approximately one hundred and twenty eight (128) possible projects at present. Some are being evaluated to see whether they meet the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) funding requirements. Mr. Whitehead will return to the Commission with a dollar amount to perform repairs and determine whether any of the projects qualify for federal funding. His department has not even been able to visit all of the project sites yet but is in the

process of getting the list prioritized from each municipality's standpoint. Road repairs are ongoing, with a road crew currently on Utah Hill to make it accessible. Crews are also being directed to the Moody Wash Crossing above Gunlock, where significant work will be required to make repairs. A temporary bypass would be very expensive and detour available dollars away from the permanent repairs that need to be done. There is limited funding to take care of all of these repairs, unlike in the 2005 Flood, where there was federal money available.

Mr. Whitehead emphasized that the exigency funding of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that is available through the NRCS is designed to fund only emergency projects that could prevent loss of life in the event of a similar occurrence. There is also a list of projects competing for the exigency fund monies, which will require prioritization. The NRCS has strict requirements for these types of projects, including one that the crews must be on the ground working within ten (10) days of the acknowledgment of the project. Local legislators are also being contacted to determine their willingness to support the County in requesting federal funds for repairs.

The response to the recent floods was efficient, its success due largely to measures that were undertaken after the 2005 flood. It is still early in the "flood season," and significant snowpacks in the mountains may be a cause for concern.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING BUSINESS

Administrator Dean Cox advised that Emergency Services has already ordered an additional forty thousand (40,000) sandbags and two (2) sandbagging machines in anticipation of any future flood threat.

Request a Closed Session

None.

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

CHRISTINE S. HALL
DEPUTY CLERK

DENNIS DRAKE
CHAIRMAN